

Presentation: "Underground Injection Control: Motor Vehicle Waste Disposal"

Speaker: Elizabeth Janes, EPA Region 9

Ms. Janes joined EPA in 1988 and has worked in the Ground Water Office since 1994. Starting in 1996, Ms. Janes has focused on Class V underground injection control wells in California.

Handout: "Ground Water Protection Program – Underground Injection Control"

Notes:

Ms. Janes discussed new regulations prohibiting subsurface disposal of motor vehicle waste and other toxic substances.

Underground injection is subsurface emplacement of waste fluid or recharge. Injection may be by gravity or under pressure via shallow conduits such as septic systems or deep injection wells. Underground injection is regulated under SDWA, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), state hazardous materials and water codes, and local septic system and pretreatment ordinances.

Class V shallow injection wells include aquifer recharge wells, agricultural recharge wells, septic systems, storm water drainage wells, and industrial disposal wells. Federal requirements for Class V wells include maintaining inventory information, notifying EPA when closing a well, and possibly permitting of the well.

Use of injection wells for hazardous waste is prohibited unless the action is part of a federal or state cleanup action. Motor vehicle waste and untreated human waste is also prohibited from disposal through injection wells.

Ms. Janes noted that the Safe Drinking Water Hotline can be accessed at 800-426-4791. Also, additional information on underground injection control can be found at EPA's website at <http://www.epa.gov/OGWDW/uic.html>.

Ms. Janes noted that EPA is planning to inspect San Francisco-area military facilities to identify potential impacts to groundwater by military facilities.